

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Office of the Attorney General

ATTORNEY GENERAL Karl A. Racine

TO: All Advisory Neighborhood Commissions

CC: Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions

FROM: Land Use Section, Office of the Attorney General

SUBJECT: New Public Interest Mission for OAG's Land Use Section

As of October 2021, the Land Use Section of the Office of the Attorney General no longer provides confidential legal counsel to the Zoning Commission (the "Commission") and the Board of Zoning Adjustment (the "Board"), as this role has been transferred to the Office of Zoning. OAG's Land Use Section has a new mission – to intervene on behalf of the public interest in the zoning, land use, and related development processes.

As part of this public interest mission, the Land Use Section is interested in working with ANCs to:

- Understand ANCs' general issues and concerns with the current zoning and development regulations and processes, including broader public policy issues such as housing, affordable housing, gentrification, displacement, racial equity, environmental issues, transportation and infrastructure;
- Provide education and guidance on how the zoning and development processes work and on how ANCs can effectively participate in the zoning and development processes, including how to frame ANCs' concerns with a specific project to ensure "great weight" and conditions to mitigate impacts; and
- Potentially intervene in a specific Commission or Board case in support of an ANC where OAG determines the case implicates the Land Use Section's public interest mission.

The Land Use Section views itself as a resource for residents of the District and encourages your ANC to contact us with any questions, concerns, or issues related to zoning, land use, and development that you would like to see addressed.

We look forward to working with you.

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